Collapsing of roads and rail road bridges

335. SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the increasing incidents of collapsing of roads and rail-road bridges during the last one year resulting in heavy loss of human lives, for example, the UT Daman Road accident on 28th August, 2003;

(b) if so, the details of existing guidelines to ensure that regular surveys are undertaking by the State Governments or other agencies to ensure proper upkeep and traffic worthiness of such bridges; and

(c) if not, what steps Government propose to adopt for safety of road bridges when the road building activities all around the country are on high priority?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI PON. RADHAKRISHNAN): (a) There is no reported incidence of loss of human lives due to collapse of road and rail-road bridges during the last one year on the National Highways.

(b) In order to ensure proper upkeep and traffic worhtiness of bridges, detailed guidelines for highway bridges inspection and maintenance contained in IRC Special Publication No. 35 "Guidelines for Inspection and Maintenance of bridges", IRC Special Publication No. 18 "Manual for Highway Bridge Maintenance Inspection" and IRC Special Publication No. 52 "Bridge Inspector's Reference Manual" are being followed.

(c) Does not arise.

National Highway Project

†336. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:
SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH 'LALAN':

Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to complete the 7,300 km road construction work during the second phase of the National Highways Project by December, 2007;

(b) if so, the Government's reaction thereto and the extent of work so far completed; and

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) the total length of four or six lane road constructed under the project so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI PON. RADHAKRISHNAN): (a) to (c) Most of the work of 4/6 laning of the North-South and East-West corridors (total 7,300 km.) under the National Highways Development Project (NHDP) is to be taken up in NHDP Phase-II. Out of the 7,300 km, 557 km have been completed and 423 km is under implementation. Preparatory work for the remaining projects are in progress and Phase-II of NHDP is targetted to be completed by December, 2007.

SSIs in Madhya Pradesh

337. SHRI P.K. MAHESHWARI: Will the Minister of SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have formulated any assistance scheme for Madhya Pradesh in the Tenth Five Year Plan to survive the SSIs in the State;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR): (a) to (c) The development of small scale industries (SSIs) is primarily the concern of respective State Governments/Union Territories. The Central Government supports and supplements the efforts of State/Union Territory Government through implementation of its various schemes/programmes uniformly throughout the country. For the development and promotion of SSIs in the State of Madhya Pradesh, 8 Integrated Infrastrctural Development Centres, one each in the districts of Satna, Mandsaur, Khargone, Katni, Sagar, Neemuch, Tikamgarh and Morena have been sanctioned and so far, central grant of Rs. 3.12 crores has been released for these projects. Further, Small Industries Service Institute (SISI), Indore and Branch SISIs at Gwalior and Rewa provide the entrepreneurship/managerial/skill development training, consultancy, project profiles, extension services, common facilities etc. to the small scale entrepreneurs. Indo-German Tool Room, Indore provides training facilities in the field of tool design, die making etc. Field Testing Station, Bhopal provides facilities for testing various products of small scale and tiny units.